Irregular supply of coal to Delhi Power Plant

†3248. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-supply on regular basis as per demand of coal in Badarpur Power House at Delhi has adversely affected its generation capacity leading to serious crisis of electricity in Delhi and shutting down of several units;

(b) the quantum of coal supplied during last three years to the said Power House and to what extent it has been lesser than demand; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure regular supply of coal as per demand to the said Power House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: (a) No, Sir. Ministry of Coal has not been informed of any loss in generation capacity at Badarpur Thermal Power Station at Delhi or shutting down of several units on account of non supply of coal.

(b) As against the normative requirement of 3.80 million tonnes per annum for Badarpur Thermal Power Station, the actual dispatches during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (Provisional) was 3.977 million tonnes, 3.832 and 3.902 million tonnes respectively. Therefore, there has been no shortfall in coal supplied as compared to the normative requirement during the last three years.

(c) Government has taken following steps to ensure regular supply of coal to various thermal power stations, including Badarpur:—

(i) The Standing Linkage Committee (short-term), an inter-ministerial Committee comprising of representatives of Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Railways and representatives of coal companies allocate coal, on quarterly basis, from coal producing companies to various power utilities including Badarpur Thermal Power Station, keeping in view, *inter-alia* their proximity from the coalfields, coal availability, grades of coal as per the Ministry of Environment and forest (MoEF) norms and transport logistics involved.

(ii) A Sub-group under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal comprising the representatives of Ministry of Power, Railways and Central Electricity Authority monitors supply of coal to various power stations. The corrective measures taken by the Sub-group from time to time in the past have ensured sufficient supply of coal to various power utilities including Badarpur Thermal Power Station to prevent any loss of generation of power due to non availability of coal.

(iii) Government has also notified New Coal Distribution Policy in October, 2007 under which 100% normative requirement of Thermal Power Station, including Badarpur, would be met by concerned coal companies, through a system of Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs).

Allotment of coal blocks

3249. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for allotment of coal blocks to Maharashtra State Mining Corporation;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Coal had invited applications in November, 2006 for allocation of coal blocks earmarked for power and non-power sector through Government company dispensation route. In response, the Maharashtra State Mining Corporation, an undertaking of Government of Maharashtra, had also submitted applications for allocation of Manoharpur, Chhattibariatu South, Dip side of Manoharpur, Chendipada, Chendipada-II, Baitarni West, Mandakini B coal blocks for power sector and Rabodih, Agarzari, Warora, Bicharpur and Sahapur coal blocks for commercial purposes. Out of these coal blocks, the Maharashtra State Mining Corporation has been allocated Agarzari and Warora coal blocks independently.

Apart from the above, in August, 2006, Marki-Zari-Zamini Adkoli coal block was allocated to the Maharashtra State Mining Corporation independently and Gare Palma Sector II coal block was allocated jointly with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

Looting of explosives

†3250. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that efforts have been made to loot the explosives from the magazines of the coal mines in Chhindwarda district;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these incidents of looting have taken place due to improper security arrangements of magazines by the management;

(d) whether appropriate security arrangements have been made in this regard; and

(e) the action being taken by the coal management to stop the incidents of looting of explosives from the magazines in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(i) On the night of 09.02.2008 at Nandan-1 magazine at about 2.50 AM, approximately, 20 miscreants suddenly started pelting stones at the magazine. Due to alertness of guards on duty and security patrolling party reaching in time the miscreants could not succeed to loot the explosives. 30 rounds of gun firing by the armed guards took place to thwart the efforts of miscreants. First Information Report (FIR) as lodged by Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) with Police Station, Damua and a case u/s 147/336 IPC dated 10.02.2008 was registered against the unknown criminals. Later on, as a follow up to see the security arrangements at this explosive magazine, DIG, Chhindwara Range, visited Nandan-1 magazine on 12.02.2008.

(ii) On the night of 08.04.2008, approximately 12 unknown miscreants attacked Nandan magazine at about 12.40 AM and started pelting stones at the security personnel on duty. The security personnel on duty at watch tower fired 6 rounds from gun to ward off the criminals and also sounded the alarm. The miscreants fled away. The matter was reported to the Police Station, Damua on 09.04.2008 and FIR was lodged by the Kanhan Area management of WCL.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.